ABSTRACT

A Digital Video Recorder is used to record broadcast television programs, store them on a hard disk, and replay them for later viewing. The programs are compressed in the MPEG-2 video compression format when they are first stored on the disk. A separate, second compression algorithm is later performed on the video files that are on the disk. Such transcoding typically occurs when the Digital Video Recorder is otherwise inactive and is used to apply more compression to the stored programs. This step results in a smaller file size for each video file and thereby permits more hours of video to be stored on a given hard disk.